

SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine And Hampton National Historic Site FY2010

Gay E. Vietzke, Superintendent

This summary covers the highlights of fiscal year 2010 (October 1, 2009 to September 30, 2010) for Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine and Hampton National Historic Site.

Fort McHenry is known as the Birthplace of the National Anthem. *“O say can you see, by the dawn’s early light,”* a large red, white and blue banner? *“Whose broad stripes and bright stars . . . were so gallantly streaming!”* over the star-shaped Fort McHenry during the Battle of Baltimore, September 13-14, 1814. The valiant defense of the fort by 1,000 dedicated Americans inspired Francis Scott Key to write “The Star-Spangled Banner.” Today, many scholars note that the concept of American identity originated in Baltimore with two the country’s most potent symbols – the flag and the anthem – both directly associated to Fort McHenry.

Hampton National Historic Site tells the story of people -- enslaved African Americans, indentured servants, industrial and agricultural workers, and owners. It is also the story of the economic and moral changes that made this kind of life obsolete. When it was finished in 1790, Hampton was the largest house in the United States. Set among beautifully landscaped grounds and gardens, it remains a showplace today. Also extant is a remarkable collection of farm and outbuildings including two standing slave quarters, dairy, granary and ice house.

FY 2010 was a year of tremendous accomplishment for both parks. Hampton continued to benefit from an extraordinary amount of project money, thanks particularly to the Flexible Park Base initiative that moved us closer to our goal of 100% historic structures in good condition and 96% of all museum deficiencies corrected. Visitation hovered around 40,000, sustaining the tremendous increase we saw in 2009 – even without the Ken Burns bubble and large-scale events. The park achieved 96% overall visitor satisfaction. At Fort McHenry, we built the new Visitor Center right smack in the middle of our operation, and yet sustained visitor satisfaction and safety! We achieved 100% visitor satisfaction and continued an exceptionally high level of park programming and special events. You’ll be tired after reading this report – it was an incredible year and much was accomplished!

Elected/Congressional Relations:

Both parks continue to enjoy an extremely supportive relationship with our federal and state delegations. Moreover, the Governor of Maryland, Mayor of Baltimore, and

County Executive of Baltimore County have all visited the parks and provided good words and support.

On December 18, Hampton hosted Senator Barbara Mikulski's annual staff retreat and holiday event. The Senator brought 65 staff members from around the state and the District of Columbia to the park. The group toured the mansion and spoke with Superintendent Vietzke in the Orangery as part of their program. The majority of the participants had never been to HAMP before. This was a great awareness raising event with the staff and even led to several new park volunteers (VIP).

On January 29, President Obama arrived and departed by helicopter at Fort McHenry to attend meetings in Baltimore City. Due to the high level of security, the park was closed to the public for most of the day. We had incredible Secret Service support and received a personal thank you from the President for the park's professionalism and support.

It was a special treat to have U.S. Representative John Sarbanes visit Fort McHenry in July. The Congressman toured the new visitor center (VC) construction site and then met NPS Youth Intake/Mentor Rangers. Sarbanes and NPS NE Regional Director, Dennis Reidenbach, led an engaging discussion focusing on the purpose of this NPS Youth initiative, possible careers in the NPS, and what motivates young people to participate.

First Lady, Michelle Obama with first children, Sasha and Mila, visited Fort McHenry NM&HS on July 20. A lively and engaging tour led by Superintendent Gay Vietzke brought the First Lady through the fort to observe presentations including an overview of the writing of the National Anthem, soldier life in 1814, interaction with Danielle Taylor, the park's Teacher-Ranger-Teacher, flag talk, cannon-firing and a highlight of the park's ARRA (2009 American Recovery and Results Act) projects.

On September 27, U.S. Senator Benjamin Cardin, U.S. Representative Dutch Ruppersberger and U.S. Representative John Sarbanes held a press conference at Fort McHenry NM&HS to celebrate the passage of the "Star-Spangled Banner Coin Bill." This bill authorizes two commemorative coins commemorating the War of 1812 and Star-Spangled Banner as legal tender. Proceeds will go to fund War of 1812 celebratory events in Maryland. Fort McHenry is a great venue for these announcements and press opportunities and we expect many more as the Bicentennial draws closer.

Administration

Budget:

Both parks were extremely fortunate to receive remarkable amounts of project money in FY2010, making it possible to accomplish many resource and visitor improvements.

FORT MCHENRY FY2010

\$2,580,000 ONPS Base Funding

\$15,000	Paint Exterior of Mission 66 Housing	Cyclic
\$15,000	Replace Dehumidifiers a Park	Cult. Cyclic
\$35,706	Repave Maintenance Area	Cyclic
\$43,152	Replace Roof of Maintenance Shop	Cyclic
\$39,995	Repair and Repoint Brick Boundary Wall	Cyclic
\$28,667	Upgrade Fiber Optic Lines	80% Fee
\$95,000	Create Earthworks Management Plan	Cult Cyclic
\$119,282	Prepare Updated HSR for Star Fort	CRPP Base
\$20,000	Historic Tree Maintenance at Fort	Cult Cyclic
\$25,000	Maintain Brick Walks with PLC	20% Fee
\$40,000	Restore Cultural Landscape	80% Fee
\$20,000	Maintain Trees In Cult. Landscape	80% Fee
\$5,000	Living History Uniforms for Volunteers	80% Fee
\$5,000	Support SSB Weekend	80% Fee
\$3,000	Support Fort McHenry Experience	80% Fee
\$17,000	Initiate Youth Field Music Program	80% Fee
\$75,000	Develop "Hold the Fort" Video Game	80% Fee
\$175,000	Design new Fort exhibits	80% Fee
\$40,000	Design new Waysides	80% Fee
\$9,000	VIP Program Support	VIP
\$39,982	2010 Youth Mentoring Program	YIP
\$20,000	Conduct and Evaluate Young Defenders	YPP
\$21,394	Donations to the park	

HAMPTON FY2010

\$1,238,000 ONPS Base Funding

\$2,463,689.20	Construct new Collections Storage Bldg	20% Fee
\$161,069	Rehab Caretaker's Cottage	FPB
\$138,275	Stabilize Garden Maintenance Building	FPB
\$445,332	Rehab Exterior of Hampton Mansion	FPB
\$200,000	Support the Preservation of Hist Structures	FPB
\$434,091	Upgrade Museum Environment	FPB
\$113,859	Preserve and Interpret Slave Quarters	FPB
\$75,000	Rehab Serpentine Walks	FPB
\$33,567	Rehab Farm Road – Pull-offs	FPB
\$43,292	Restore Ridgely Farm Fences	FPB
\$147,969	Support Preservation of Collections	FPB
\$24,893	Control Visible Light in Mansion	FPB
\$15,000	Update signs in Cult Landscape	Cyclic
\$14,885	Stabilize Cold Frames	CRPP Stabilization

\$23,000	Purchase Museum Storage for Textiles	MCP
\$25,000	Repair Sidewalk/Improve ADA at Farm	R/R
\$25,000	Maintain Garden Walks with PLC	20% Fee
\$29,173	Repair Marble Objects at Park	Cult Cyclic
\$36,648	Conserve Textiles for Exhibit	Cult Cyclic
\$40,000	Implement Historic Tree Mgmt Plan	Cult Cyclic
\$44,980	Conserve Historic Objects in Mansion	Cult Cyclic
\$75,000	Prepare Historic Resource Study	CRPP Studies
\$96,000	Repair Greenhouse Heating System	20% Fee
\$25,000	Grounds Renovations with PLC	20% Fee
\$115,000	Clean-Up Park Boundary	20% Fee
\$12,000	Repair Winter Storm Damage	Storm Funds
\$6,000	VIP Program Support	VIP
\$7,183	Donations to Park	Donation

Personnel:

FOMC/HAMP Park staffing was as follows:

Management

Superintendent/Park Manager	Gay Vietzke
Management Assistant	Laurie Coughlan
CR/Compliance Manager	Anna von Lunz

Administration

Administrative Officer	Lois Schwartz
Human Resources Assistant	Cecelia Neugebauer
Information Technology Specialist	John Schultz

Resource Management

Supervisory Horticulturist, Chief	Paul Bitzel
Student Trainee (Archives), SCEP	Julia Lehnert
Gardener	Michael Lynch
Museum Curator	Gregory Weidman
Archeologist, TERM	John Pousson
Museum Tech, TERM	Cora Provins
Museum Aid, Seasonal	Jessica Bulger
Laborer, Seasonal	Jamie Hicks
Laborer, Seasonal	Anthony Kikola
Motor Vehicle Operator, Seasonal	Amanda Klapka
Laborer, Seasonal	Laura Neugebauer
Registrar, Contractor thru 1/1/2010	Debbie Patterson

Maintenance

Supervisory Facility Operations Specialist	Gregory McGuire (retired 3/2010)
Supervisory Facility Operations Specialist, Chief	Boyd, Wayne

Project Manager
Automotive Mechanic
Preservationist
Preservationist
Preservationist
Tractor Operator
Facility Services Assistant, TERM
Maintenance Worker, TERM
Maintenance Mechanic, TERM
Maintenance Worker, TERM
Laborer, Seasonal
Motor Vehicle Operator, Seasonal
Laborer, Seasonal
Laborer, Seasonal
Laborer, Seasonal
Laborer, Seasonal
Motor Vehicle Operator, Seasonal
Laborer, Seasonal
Laborer, Seasonal

Law Enforcement

Supervisory Park Ranger (Protection), Chief
Park Ranger (Protection)
Park Ranger (Protection)
Park Ranger (LE), Seasonal
Park Ranger (LE), Seasonal
Park Ranger (LE), Seasonal
ProRanger (LE), Seasonal
ProRanger (LE), Seasonal

Visitor Services

Supervisory Park Ranger, Chief
Park Ranger (Interp/VIP Coord)
Park Ranger (Permits)
Park Ranger (Interpretation)
Park Ranger (Interpretation)
Park Ranger (Interpretation)
Park Ranger (Interpretation)
Visitor Use Assistant, Intake
Park Ranger, Seasonal
Park Guide, Seasonal
Park Guide, Seasonal
Park Ranger, Seasonal
Park Ranger, Seasonal
Park Guide, Seasonal

John Holtzinger
Garry Church
Lynn Hemmingson
Telia Shipowick
Philip McCall
William Wagner
Victor Markland
Nick Courtney (terminated 5/2010)
Timothy Phebus
Kirk Schilling
Ey, Chloe
Richard Fuller
Kevin Gluth
Kemp Knott (terminated 6/2010)
Jarvies Page
Rachel Troch (terminated 6/2010)
Mark Wilson
Zoli, Paul
Rebekah Frazier

Clark, Glen
Frederick Apfel
William Curtis
Sierra Daniels
Brien Eitner
Chad Kitchens
Lydia Solomon
Owen McDaniel

Vincent Vaise
James Bailey
Susan Knauer
Paul Plamann
Angela Roberts-Burton
James Rogers
Scott Sheads
KirbyLynn Shedlowski
Shandrika Davis
Alan Gephardt
Toyy Glover
James Ronald Grissom
Catherine Holden
Benjamin Kreshtool
Laura Marshallsay

Visitor Use Assistant, Intake
Park Ranger, Seasonal
Visitor Use Assistant, Intake
Park Guide, Seasonal
Visitor Use Assistant, Intake
Park Guide, Seasonal
Park Ranger, Seasonal
Visitor Use Assistant, Intake
Visitor Use Assistant, Intake
Visitor Use Assistant, Intake
Visitor Use Assistant, Intake
Visitor Use Assistant, Intake
Visitor Use Assistant, Intake
Park Guide, Seasonal
Park Guide, Seasonal
Park Ranger, Seasonal
Visitor Use Assistant, Intake
Park Guide, Seasonal
Park Ranger, Seasonal

Tyler Mink
Amato Mongelluzzo
Keith Parham
Robert Stewart
Sharneasha Street
Carol Van Natta
John Wilson
Shabray Hobson (term 6/2010)
Seamus Ertel
Jazmine Gibbs
Ceoshay Dickens
Courtney Sheffield
Davon Woodard
Ariel Mond
Genevieve White
Karen Worthington
Lasean Robinson
Samuel Supnick
Kristin Schenning
Dustin Meeker

Concessions:

There is only one Concessions contract between the two parks. In FY2010, a new contract to operate the FOMC retail and food service operation was awarded to Evelyn Hill Corporation. We are particularly proud of this new contract as it will implement the California State Nutrition standards for the food service program. This new contract is designed to address a number of specific issues with the current operation.

Contracting:

During the course of FY 2010, the park initiated an unprecedented 90 Purchase Requests for over \$5 million dollars in contracted services. This represents an increase of 113% over FY2009 purchasing levels.

The park has also maintained eight contracting officer's technical representatives (COTR) to manage all of the work these actions represent.

Training:

In FY2010, formal and informal training reached all divisions and all layers of the organization. Here are some highlights:

Maintenance began a mentoring program for younger or newer employees, matching them with experienced professionals at Gettysburg, National Preservation Training Center, and Assateague.

John Holtzinger, Project Manager, graduated from the Facility Management Leadership Program in the Spring after an intensive year of training and development.

The park implemented quarterly staff training opportunities based on the EAP training menu. In FY2010, we hosted stress management and coping with change programs as part of our workplace enrichment offerings.

The park hosted two sessions of “Operational Leadership” ensuring as many employees as possible were able to attend.

The park also hosted “Promoting Equity in the Workplace: Understanding EEO & Managing Diversity for Managers & Supervisors” training given by Horizons Management & Training Consultants. The course included all five division chiefs, as well as other park leaders.

Museum Technician Cora Provins attended *Digital Directions: Fundamentals of Creating and Managing Digital Collections*. Curator Gregory Weidman completed the two week-long *Fundamentals II*. Both courses were held at the Grand Canyon.

Training at the parks for commissioned rangers reached a high water mark with rangers receiving training on commercial vehicle violations, US Court procedures, TASER use, and firearms all within the local area of the parks. The firearms instructor at FOMC provided training for rangers for several different parks at multiple range dates including firearms training in June for ten NPS rangers.

The V&RP division also worked numerous times with other federal, state, and local agencies to provide both training for NPS commissioned rangers and other agencies commissioned officers as well as several details to provide for the protection of visitors and resources within the parks. Participating agencies included the Department of Defense, Federal Protective Services, Maryland Transportation Police, Maryland Port Authority Police, Maryland State Fire Marshall Office, Baltimore City Police Department, Baltimore City Fire Department, and the Baltimore County Police Department. Training and details were also conducted with several other NPS units for law enforcement, structural fire protection, and safety operations.

Ranger Angela Roberts-Burton, attended “Local Registered Coach Course” for interpretation and education in Philadelphia, PA.

Vincent Vaise attended “Concessions Management and Pricing” training at Zion NP.

Gay Vietzke and Vince Vaise attended “Fee Management for Superintendents.” Vietzke also attend SLR 4 during the year.

Mandatory trainings (Discrimination and Whistleblowing, Federal Information System Security Awareness and Privacy and Records Management, Responsibilities for Computer Use, and Annual Fire Extinguisher Training) were all completed.

Information Technology:

A great deal of planning, preparation, and installation paved the way for the successful installation of alarms, security cameras and fire suppression systems at both parks.

Additionally, a tremendous amount of work was accomplished related to the planning, set-up, and transfer of all IT (fiber optic, cable, telephones, computers, telnet, etc.) to the new FOMC VC in Fall 2010. To underscore the complexity of this, all of these current systems run through a hub in the old VC, which is to be torn down, so we had to ensure that it could run all the systems in the new building – but also during transition between the two. The park's IT Specialist John Schultz has been a tremendous asset this year in attending to all the ongoing needs, while ensuring everything was in place for the new facility.

Over 562 requests for computer and telephone assistance were answered within the two parks.

Maintenance and Facility Management

The Facility Maintenance division completed a total of thirty eight projects in FY10. These projects consisted of three ARRA projects, six historic preservation projects, and numerous facility and utilities related projects. Two prominent projects for FY10 involved the historic Star Fort at Fort McHenry. Installation of a fire suppression system, and a project to increase the energy efficiency of the historic structures were completed. In addition to the installation of interior storm windows, inefficient exterior AC units were replaced with high efficiency interior units. The park also utilized the latest in solar and LED technology to illuminate the historic flagpole.

Masonry re-pointing was also completed on the FOMC boundary wall. In addition, shutters were installed on the Junior Officer's and Commanding Officer's Quarters in the Star Fort. These long missing architectural elements return the structures to their original historic appearance.

At Hampton NHS, two major historic preservation projects were completed in house: the stabilization of the Carriage House cold frames and masonry repairs to Slave Quarters II. Also, new public restrooms on the farm side of the property were completed and opened!

Facility Management directed many of its resources towards the completion of the new FOMC Visitor and Education Center. Daily consultations and approximately sixty construction management meetings (held more than weekly) were attended. Facility Management priorities in FY10 were FMSS data clean-up -- where a ninety-two percent data accuracy rate was achieved--implementation of further energy conservation and sustainability practices, and reduction of the parks' hazardous waste inventory. A ninety percent reduction in these hazardous materials was achieved. In addition; the maintenance division's storage facilities were completely reorganized.

The park's four ARRA projects which focused on increasing energy efficiency as well as improving the historic scene should be highlighted here. Interior storm windows for the

Star Fort buildings were installed over the winter. These new windows have reduced energy consumption and increased employee comfort. Also, fifty pair of wooden shutters and associated hardware were restored to the historic barracks. These architectural elements had been missing from the rear of the Star Fort buildings for decades.

New solar lighting for the flag pole was installed. We now generate our own solar power to illuminate the Fort's flag pole with high efficiency LED lights – which are whiter and brighter. This is a huge and visible success for renewable energy!

High efficiency air-conditioning has been installed in the historic start fort buildings, as well as long-needed fire detection and suppression systems.

Finally, new solar lighting for the visitor center parking lot was also implemented.

Interpretation and Education

FY 2010 was a defining year for the park's interpretive division. The interpretive staff proved vital in contributing content knowledge, creativity and interpretive expertise in the development new permanent exhibits at both Fort McHenry NM&HS and Hampton NHS that will affect how visitors learn and experience these parks for a generation to come. Both parks are being profoundly transformed. For the first time in the site's history, Hampton's full range of stories from indentured servitude to slavery to tenant farming to specialized worker to owner are being told and showcased on a daily basis. The exhibits developed this year for the new Visitor and Education center at Fort McHenry NM&HS will, for the first time, enable visitors to learn the context in which the National Anthem was written and why it is relevant to people today. This is a truly once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and challenge that the division has successfully accomplished. It should be noted that the division achieved this while still providing quality visitor service for the general public.

During a busy year that recorded increased visitation at Fort McHenry NM & HS, and an increased number of facilitated programs at Hampton NHS, six new Ranger-led programs were developed, the Youth Intake Program doubled in size, NPS interpretive staff led tours in the Baltimore National Heritage Area as part of a pilot study, seven teacher workshops were conducted (six on-site and one off-site), and two on-line lesson plans with accompanying site-related activities were posted. In addition to hosting six major special events (over 1,000 people each), interpretive staff gave a number of specialized programs to the following: the First Lady Michelle Obama and her children, the Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar, Director of the NPS Jon Jarvis, NPS Deputy Director Mickey Fearn, NE Regional Director Dennis Reidenbach, Governor Martin O'Malley, Speaker of the Maryland House of Representatives Michael Busch, Mayor of Baltimore Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, and Baltimore County Executive Jim Smith.

During the course of the year interpretive staff gave facilitated programs to 75,600 visitors at Fort McHenry NM&HS, 19,000 visitors at Hampton NHS and 793 visitors as part of pilot study in the Baltimore National Heritage Area. And yet, the numbers do not tell the entire story. This year greater efforts were made to raise the quality of

presentation. Interpretive staff submitted footnoted outlines of their formal talks. In addition, the first of periodic discussion groups was held. Readings were assigned and Professor Donald Hickey of Wayne State University led the discussion focusing on the causes and consequences of the War of 1812.

Seasonal training and refresher training for longstanding Ranger staff was strengthened this year. Topics included engaging youth in Ranger programs, relevancy, as well as basic interpretive techniques and pertinent research. At FOMC the “Fort, Flag and Fire!” and “Flag Talk” programs were offered more frequently and were very-well attended by visitors (200 per talk on average). The benefit in improved training and targeting experiences that visitors love was borne out through the annual park survey that rated Fort McHenry staff at 100% and Hampton staff at 96% for visitor satisfaction of interpretive programs. This is especially impressive when considering the turmoil of widespread construction at FOMC!

As Hampton NHS continues to undergo a Renaissance, so too do the Ranger-facilitated programs. This year grounds tours were offered with regularity, with a special emphasis on the Falling Garden. The Lower House reopened in late August after mold mitigation was completed and tours are given there on a daily basis. Visitation to the Lower House has gone up 200% in FY2010. A new three-hour mansion, farm complex and grounds tour is given on the first Saturday of the month.

This year saw the completion of the Long-Range Interpretive Plan for Hampton NHS! Hampton staff spent a great deal of time reviewing content, re-writing large portions of the document, and following-up to insure deadlines were met by the Harpers Ferry Center. Hampton staff and exhibit contractors developed new, permanent exhibits in the Lower House, Tenant Farmers’ Quarters, Slave Quarters and Dove Cote Garage. Park expertise proved vital in making sure the range of Hampton’s stories was reflected in these important exhibits. These were year-long projects, requiring frequent text reviews and follow-up to contractors to keep the projects on-target.

New waysides are in place at Hampton! Park staff managed the development of fourteen new interpretive waysides at Hampton NHS. Working closely with the Harpers Ferry Center, staff developed content, decided on placement and facilitated fabrication and placement.

Hampton staff also developed and wrote a new guidebook for Hampton NHS that is far more interpretive and reflects the full range of stories and improvements at Hampton NHS than any previous publication. The book will be available this fall.

New Junior Ranger booklets were developed for both parks this year. Colorful and engaging, they are extremely popular among younger visitors. The number of Junior Ranger booklets given out at the fort jumped 300% when the new booklet was introduced! Hampton’s Junior Ranger booklet, designed by seasonal staff members, is equally popular and are designed for three grade levels.

A study was launched as part of the Baltimore National Heritage Area to determine the effectiveness of Ranger-led programs in two locations in the Heritage area: the Inner Harbor and the neighborhood of Fells Point. FOMC trained four new seasonal Rangers, then worked with the Heritage Area to schedule staff and implement the study. Over 250 programs were given to 793 visitors. The findings will be incorporated into the NHA's management planning effort.

Both parks were aggressive in conducting off-site outreach programs – 35 for Fort McHenry NM&HS for 5,000 people and 15 for Hampton NHS for 1,462 people. The interpretive division assisted other parks by providing black powder safety instructors to Chalmette Unit of Jean Lafitte NHP as part of their Battle of New Orleans commemoration and Valley Forge NHP for their annual Washington's Birthday program.

FOMC/HAMP supported the region by detailing Chief of Interpretation, Vince Vaise to serve on an Interpretive Map for Booker T. Washington National Monument, and devoting staff to work directly with NER Chief of Interpretation, Robert Fudge, to plan and host the Chiefs of Interpretation conference in Baltimore in December, 2010. Also, Ranger Kirby Shedlowski spent a month in Louisiana providing public affairs support for volunteer management for the Gulf Oil Spill.

Both Fort McHenry NM&HS and Hampton NHS are engaging youth by using technology effectively. This year both parks launched Facebook sites and Twitter feeds. Visitation to programs has increased and, in the case of the fort, visitors have given their opinions regarding new exhibits under development through this social media.

A major effort was made this year to place a greater emphasis on attracting youth and keeping the stories inclusive as part of Hampton Second Sunday events. For example, 40% of the programs offered related to slavery and African-American themes, while 70% of the programs were aimed at youth. Visitation for Second Sunday programs is still on the rise. HAMP also launched a new program called "Ranger for a Day!" whereby kids ages 8-10 spend a half-day learning about the various jobs NPS people do from Law-Enforcement to Curatorial to Interpretation. This was an extremely well attended summer program.

The Youth Intake/Mentor Program grew in numbers and in organization. The program doubled this year with 10 students employed through the program. Second-year candidates continued to develop and were charged with delivering a basic interpretive program. Seasonal Ranger Catherine Holden and Ranger Angela Roberts-Burton worked directly as coaches for Intake Rangers, developing lesson-plans and organizing visits to other NPS sites. Second-year candidates were featured by NPS Director Jon Jarvis when he visited FOMC as part of a nationwide tour for community engagement – the "Road Show". Youth Intake Rangers actively participated in "America's Great Outdoors, Youth for Public Lands" hosted by NPS Deputy Director Mickey Fearn, U.S. Representative John Sarbanes, and Maryland's Governor O'Malley in Annapolis. John Sarbanes took such an active interest in the fort's program that he visited the fort in July to meet with the Intake Rangers. This year, Rangers Sharneasha Street and Jazmine

Gibbs were highlighted in a special TV news story on Channel 13, Ranger Davon Woodward was featured in the *Baltimore Sun* and a follow-up story in the *Sun* was done on Ranger Keith Parham. The Youth Intake/Mentor program received very good public exposure this summer.

Fort McHenry staff worked extensively with Aperture Films in the production of a movie and eight interactive displays for the new visitor and education center at FOMC. Park staff was indispensable in developing the majority of the content of the interactive displays, conducting periodic reviews, and selecting the majority of images and monitoring. During the movie's location filming, the FOMC team took the lead in providing accurate costuming, selecting locations for the shots, and monitoring for historical accuracy.

Fort McHenry staff also worked with Haley Sharpe Design on the development of exhibits for the new visitor and education center at FOMC. Staff was responsible for checking historical accuracy, verifying information with other historians, recommending images, and proofreading. These exhibits will be a lasting legacy that will remain in the park for many years to come.

A total of six teachers' workshops were held on-site between Hampton NHS and Fort McHenry NM&HS this year. Four workshops were the result of a "Teaching American History" grants. Rangers Kirby Shedlowski and Jim Rogers traveled to LaHoya, Texas to conduct two of the workshops.

Fort McHenry NM&HS hosted the most successful "Young Defenders" program on record. This curriculum-based education program engaged over 1,440 Baltimore City school students on the Friday before Defenders' Day. This year for the first time, the park organized a teachers' workshop held in the spring, to evaluate previous "Young Defenders" programs for effectiveness. A second workshop was added to prepare teachers for bringing their students to this year's program.

Park Staff supported park-related education initiatives with other institutions. Ranger Jim Bailey conducted an Advanced Placement (AP) U.S. History Teachers' seminar at Goucher College; Chief of Interpretation, Vince Vaise, gave three lectures to midshipmen at the U.S. Naval Academy; and Ranger Angela Roberts-Burton conducted a seminar on slavery at Goucher College and led a discussion group about the same topic at Riversdale Mansion.

Three Teacher-Ranger-Teachers (TRT) were sponsored this year – two at Fort McHenry NM&HS and one at Hampton NHS. Teachers at McHenry focused on mentoring Youth Intake Rangers, facilitating workshops for the fort's Young Defenders' program, and reviewing existing online curriculum. Hampton TRT, Jerrell Baker wrote four lesson plans for Hampton and developed a video clip about the site linking the estate with the local African-American community.

Hampton NHS staff has been working more closely with the Baltimore County School system to facilitate more curriculum-based field trips. A pilot program involving Hereford Middle School was launched in January testing feasibility of morning arrivals. Together with a streamlined reservation system, the number of school visits to HAMP has increased by 20% this year.

Park staff worked successfully with the University of Maryland, Baltimore County's Education Department to develop an impressive on-line curriculum-based website. Titled "Hampton, a Revolutionary Place," the site explores the roles of the Ridgelys, the enslaved and indentured servants. <http://www.umbc.edu/che/hampton/>

On-line lesson plans that are part of the WASO "Teaching with Museum Collections" program went live for Hampton! A coordinating on-line exhibit will launch in FY2011.

Hampton NHS staff, together with Goucher College, successfully planned, promoted and hosted the most successful annual symposium on slavery to date. The program, titled "Sifting through Slavery," focused on what archeology can teach us about the lifestyles of the enslaved. The program attracted noted scholars and authors and 200 people attended – more than the park has ever had!

Park staff was sent to "Tourism Ambassador" training sponsored by Where Baltimore. Seasonal staff learned about local attractions, the importance of tourism to Baltimore, tourism as an industry and the value of excellent customer service. These Rangers passed a test and are officially accredited to provide tourism information about the entire City.

Six major special events were held between both parks this year. Events focused on important themes for the parks and community. For example, for Memorial Day Weekend, FOMC featured a large-scale living history event representing various eras of history. Community engagement took place at Mount Auburn Cemetery – the oldest African-American cemetery in Baltimore. Hundreds of community residents turned out, hosted a picnic, and helped clean the cemetery in preparation for the event. July 4th commemorated the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the 50-star flag, in a very innovative program that brought thousands of visitors to FOMC, the park networked with NPS sites in Hawaii and put on the "Aloha Huzzah Celebration." The U.S. Navy tattoo (1,000 visitors), Star-Spangled Banner Weekend (the commemoration of the successful defense of Baltimore in 1814 and writing of the National Anthem) (15,000) and Hampton Yuletide (2,700), were all great successes.

Both parks served as the location of large-scale special events hosted by other agencies. Hampton NHS was the location for the final gala marking the end of Baltimore County's 350th anniversary celebration. Over 750 people, including Baltimore County Executive Jim Smith, Senator Cardin, Congressmen Sarbanes and Ruppertsberger, and many Maryland officials attended and toured the mansion. Fort McHenry NM&HS hosted a celebration titled "Welcome Home Warriors!" to thank veterans returning from Iraq which attracted over 500 people, including Governor Martin O'Malley. In addition, Speaker of the Maryland House, Michael Busch, chose Fort McHenry NM&HS as the

site to host a reception for the Speakers of the House from all 50 state legislatures. The event was attended by over 1,000 VIPs who received a tour of the fort, flag talk and cannon-firing demonstration.

Press coverage this year has been unbelievable. For example, TV Channel 13 alone did four feature stories on Fort McHenry this year. Every major event was covered by at least three television stations and 10 newspapers or magazines. In addition to special events, media coverage highlighted the park's youth program, Centennial Seasonal Ranger, and the role of African-Americans in the War of 1812.

Volunteer Program

During FY10 at Fort McHenry NM&HS, 459 VIPs contributed 22,005 hours of service valued at \$484,110 and the equivalent of 10.5 full-time employees. When looked at by category, 30 Visitor Services Volunteers provided the equivalent of 2.5 full-time employees at the Visitor Center desk and Star Fort. 187 Living history volunteers, from the Fort McHenry Guard to visiting guest units, provided the staggering equivalent of 40 weekend employees from May - September, including the annual Star-Spangled Banner Weekend.

Visitor Services volunteers proved essential to maintaining visitor services at Fort McHenry NM&HS during critical times of the year. They drove mobility shuttles, helped park cars, provided crowd control during special events and covered interpretive programs at times, thereby enabling NPS staff to attend critical planning meetings for the War of 1812 bicentennial, training, and exhibit development.

Park volunteers were instrumental in the filming of the park's new visitor center movie, to debut in 2011. Park volunteers helped maintain the historical accuracy of the film and endured pouring rain in near freezing weather during the film shoot.

This year also saw volunteers taking a stronger leadership role in both the Visitor Services and Living History Divisions, helping to streamline the administration and management of the volunteer program as a whole. Both staff and volunteers remarked on the improved flow of the year as a result. In addition, the VIP program performed outreach and off-site programs with the US Navy, Riversdale Museum, the town of Bladensburg, local historical societies, Baltimore County, Maryland State Parks, and living history organizations from over 10 states. Regrettably, the program suffered a tragic blow with the passing of its beloved Chaplain, the Rev. Deacon James E. Moser.

During FY10, Hampton NHS VIPs contributed 13,217 hours of service, the equivalent of 5 full-time employees. Volunteers were instrumental in providing mansion tours during the busy Yuletide season and during Second Sunday programs. Volunteers were especially useful in covering visitor operations during the springtime, thereby enabling NPS staff to provide curriculum-based programs to visiting schools. This year three volunteer training seminars were held. Seminars focused on changes in the mansion and in the story. In addition, seminars addressed historical accuracy and weeded out the

“folklore” that had crept into past interpretation. A number of visitor survey cards reference specific volunteers, praising them for their wonderful programs.

Fee Program Management

The Fort McHenry Fee Program continues to remain professional and up front with the fee collectors oftentimes the first uniformed park personnel with whom the daily visitor comes into contact. The park used 17 well-qualified, well-trained fee collectors this year that proved to be a top-notch cadre of professionals who completely understood the importance and necessity of absolute accountability with regards to the handling of government funds.

The team succeeded in collecting \$471,000 through a combination of daily entrance fees and the sale of almost 4,000 park passes. This was the highest year of fee collection totals in the history of the park.

Behind the scenes, in the Fee Office, 33 separate deposits were prepared with 100% accuracy, 12 monthly reports were prepared for management planning showing a three-year comparison of fee collection, and 20 reports were prepared for the Administration Office indicating the breakdown for all credit card sales of entrance fees versus passes to enable the required Income Transfers to be prepared as requested by AOC.

In addition to the daily oversight of the fee program, the Fee Operations Department continues to work toward the goal of the installation of the NPS Point of Sale System with Fort McHenry as the only pilot park in the Northeast Region. After three years of planning, off-site training, and bi-weekly conference calls, training and installation for the POSS is slated for the last week of November, 2010. Also, equipment has been ordered and training will soon begin to comply with Treasury’s requirement for the installation of PCC-OTC for the automatic electronic depositing of all checks that are received by the park.

Resources Stewardship

FY2010 will be remembered as a landmark year for the preservation of the parks’ cultural and natural resources. Significant funding was received from a variety of sources, including Flexible Park Base, permitting a wide range of projects that will have long-term positive impact on the conservation and preservation of important park assets and collections. These projects, when fully completed, will touch all park visitors through increased access, improved safety, improved collection storage, rehabilitation of resources and enhanced visitor experience. Many of these projects were completed and some are underway with planned completion in 2011. During the course of the year there were 25 Section 106/NEPA project statement entered and reviewed in PEPC for Hampton and 9 project statements for Fort McHenry. Several projects included on-site visits from the members of the parks’ Compliance Team, as well as, specific staff members from the Maryland Historical Trust (SHPO). In all cases, the results of the consultations were No Adverse Effect Determinations.

Cultural Resource Management

Several major contracts were completed in 2010 that have significant impact on cultural resources. Installation of compacting storage units within the Civil War Powder Magazine at Fort McHenry was recommended in the March 2008 draft Collection Management Plan to replace antiquated shelving and to expand storage capacity in the facility housing collections of both parks. Engineering investigation revealed that the floor would support the weight of the proposed shelving system and with MCPP funding, a custom shelving system designed to NPS specifications was completed in April 2010. The building's storage capacity was increased from 1500 linear feet to 2500 linear feet.

Working with the Northeast Museum Services Center and the Harper's Ferry Center, several important groups of museum objects were assessed and/or received conservation treatment. One hundred-forty pieces of silver, including the Hampton Postboy Cup and Lafayette Ewer, were cleaned and lacquered by NEMSC. HFC completed a textile conservation project for Hampton with detailed condition assessment of forty major objects; ten Ridgely white work coverlets and quilts received treatment. Two historic book condition surveys inspected and assessed over two thousand books. The HFC completed conservation treatment of objects to be exhibited in the new Visitor Center at Fort McHenry. Other major conservation projects completed included cleaning and waxing the statues of Orpheus, Armistead and the Francis Scott Key Memorial at Fort McHenry and the repair and cleaning of the Hampton Cemetery headstones, marble garden urns and the 1858 statue of Henry White by Pasquale Romanelli to be exhibited in the Mansion Drawing Room.

The Historic Structure Report for Hampton Slave Quarters 3 and an architectural investigation of Hampton Mansion were completed in 2010. A Historic Structure Report for the Star Fort, an Earthworks Management Plan for Fort McHenry and a Historic Resource Study for Hampton are underway.

The List of Classified Structures was updated for both Fort McHenry and Hampton. Both sites saw an increase in the number of structures in Good Condition that exceeded park GPRA 1a5 goals. These numbers will continue to increase with completion of preservation projects currently underway. The parks also exceeded GPRA 1a6 goals for Collections in Good Condition. Cultural Landscapes (GPRA 1a7) and Archeological Sites (GPRA 1a8) also reported resources in Good Condition.

Park Archeologist John Pousson completed *A Preliminary Report on Archeological Monitoring of the Visitor and Education Center Construction for Fort McHenry*, documenting remnants of various historic structures and collecting a number of informative artifacts. While monitoring excavation for the installation of waterlines for fire suppression systems in the Star Fort, the foundation of the fort's 1806 guardhouse beneath the east end of Building A was exposed. This discovery provided clarification concerning the sequence of construction in the vicinity where previously it was thought only one structure had existed. The exposure of successive window wells associated with the cellar of Building D added to the park's understanding of the abandonment of the cellars between ca. 1815 and 1837 due to excessive water infiltration. Limited archeological testing was performed at Hampton on three extant historic structures to

provide data needed for Historic Structure Reports being prepared and for information needed to determine preservation treatments.

The Northeast Museum Services Center evaluated the storage needs of archeological collections of both parks. Training was provided to staff on re-housing the collections, with complete re-housing of the Fort McHenry collection planned in 2011.

A multi-year project begun in 2007 to conserve a large range of historic archives and works on paper for both parks was completed by the Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts. NEMSC Archivists worked with staff to review and sort one hundred linear feet of Hampton administrative, curatorial, interpretive, and central file materials. The first group of Hampton's Henry White Papers that included personal correspondence between White and John Hay was scanned and microfilmed. The next four phases of the project are planned for completion in early 2011.

Final review of 100% Construction Drawings for the Hampton purpose-built collection storage facility and the Hampton Stables Fire Suppression Systems was completed. Contracts were awarded with planned completion in late 2011.

Natural Resource Management

With completion of Phase II of the rehabilitation of the Falling Garden at Hampton in May 2010, visitors now have the opportunity to experience this central feature of the Cultural Landscape as it appeared during the late nineteenth century. Three thousand flowering plants of historical varieties were used to recreate the elaborate parterre and Victorian carpet beds that comprise the first terrace of the garden. Gardens of the second terrace were surveyed and configured, with plans set to implement full planting in 2011. 2010 brought several notable weather-related issues impacting park resources. Two significant snowfalls resulted in damage creating hazardous conditions in the Hampton Cultural Landscape. Storm damage funding enabled repair and actual improvement in the condition to park resources.

An updated park boundary survey was completed for the Hampton Home Farm to establish reference points for contracts related to improving the condition of this park area with removal of invasive plant species and for restoration of the Ridgely fence lines. The fence project will have the added value of enhancing park security.

A Geese Management Plan was implemented at Fort McHenry using strategies to discourage migratory geese activity in the park in an effort to address health and safety concerns and visitor complaints. Besides a contract utilizing working border collies with professional handlers, food-grade grape extract and red laser hand pieces were utilized following federal, state and local regulations. Nuisance animals inhabiting historic structures at Hampton and impacting building systems were a recurring problem. RM staff, newly certified in wildlife control, successfully removed the problem animals and worked to correct conditions to discourage occupancy.

A comprehensive tree inventory and condition assessment was completed for the Hampton Farm Landscape to update information gathered in 2000. Prepared in conjunction with the Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation, the assessment included detailed GIS locations, preservation needs and government cost estimates.

Various partner groups assisted NPS staff on several important natural resource projects. The Baltimore County Department of Corrections Community Service Program continued to provide volunteers supporting the Hampton Resource Management Program. With their help, the park was able to remove twenty-five hundred pounds of invasive plants from the Cemetery Woods and other areas of the Cultural Landscape. The National Aquarium in Baltimore worked with NPS staff on four events providing volunteers to improve the health and appearance of the Fort McHenry Wetlands through the removal of over 300 cubic yards of debris from the property. National Public Lands Day was held in conjunction with one of these events and included over 200 volunteers at Fort McHenry. Landscape preservation projects were also organized at Hampton on this day. RM staff organized an Earth Day tree planting at Hampton to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the original Earth Day. Under a cooperative agreement with Civic Works, Inc., landscape preservation maintenance projects were completed at both parks. At Fort McHenry, the organization assisted park staff with care of woody plants and planting beds throughout the park. At Hampton, one thousand linear feet of split rail fence was installed to emulate historic field fencing and to enhance park security.

As part of the Hampton Integrated Pest Management Program, bluebird boxes had been installed discretely throughout the park landscape to encourage the species presence in the park for their value in controlling insects. Due to changes in the landscape over time, the boxes needed to be moved in order to promote bluebird nesting. Staff relocated four of the boxes in the Spring and within days, the boxes were occupied with established bluebird nests.

Landscape worker Amanda Klapka received her Maryland State Public Agency Pesticide Applicator License after completing a course of study and serving as a registered employee for one year. With further study, Ms. Klapka expanded her license to include three additional categories of pests. Her interest in this field will permit the park to expand the Integrated Pest management Program in control of pest problems encountered.

Staff worked to develop treatment strategies to maintain landscape features within budgetary restraints to improve/protect the condition of resources. An Earthworks Management Plan for Fort McHenry was initiated, for instance, that will guide long-term preservation of these resources and include an interpretive element to enhance visitor education. This document is scheduled for completion in January 2011.

A cooperative project was to update visitor information, directional and regulatory signage throughout both parks. Seasonal staff and Pro Rangers participated in the project with permanent employees from all Divisions to replace deteriorated signs and to install new signs where required.

Staff also completed a project to install security cameras at the Hampton Mansion in a manner sensitive to the resource.

Several significant donations occurred in FY2010. Manor View Farm Nursery donated native plant material valued at \$1850 for planting in the parks.

Colonial Dames of America, Chapter I, presented several important gifts to Hampton, including original copies of Charles Carman Ridgely's 1829 will and inventory and a 1959 letter to Eliza Ridgely.

Fort McHenry received an important gift offer of archives and photographs related to Henry Hall Brogden, a confederate spy who was imprisoned at the Fort during the Civil War.

A gift of important World War I documents and photographs was received for Fort McHenry.

A number of important educational and interpretive exhibits also happened in FY2010. In October 2009, the Parlour at Hampton was completely reinstalled to accurately reflect the 1790-1810 era. Funding for this project, reflecting four years of curatorial efforts, was provided by the Dorothy Wallis Charitable Trust and Chapter I, Colonial Dames of America. Staff updated the current FOMC Junior Officers Quarters exhibit to enhance its historical accuracy. Hampton Yuletide continued as a popular event for visitors, supported by the Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, District III, and the Historic Hampton Inc. Women's Committee. Temporary exhibits in the North Portico Gallery included *In a Superior Style: Ridgely Family Silver from Hampton and the Maryland Historical Society* and *The Witness Tree Project*. This exhibit was developed in partnership with the Rhode Island School of Design, in which students studied the history of Hampton, then crafted furniture and other objects to reflect the tree's 170 year relationship with the site. An article on the exhibit was published in *Forum News*, National Trust for Historic Preservation's online newsletter.

Hampton provided seven important objects to the exhibition *Cheers: The Culture of Drink in Early Maryland* at Homewood House Museum.

Park Curator Gregory Weidman completed her contribution to the Hampton Virtual Tour, an online exhibition of over 300 collection objects being created by the Museum Management Program in WASO, providing detailed information, themes and labels.

Visitor and Resource Protection

During 2010 the Visitor and Resource Protection Division assisted with several special events and large group visits. The protection rangers have increased night shifts at Hampton NHS to two shifts per ranger for an average of six per pay period to curtail vandalism at the site. Other projects included:

In May of 2010 the Division of Law Enforcement was renamed the Visitor and Resource Protection Division to better reflect the diverse work performed by the division staff. Rangers continued to be responsible for implementing changes to federal law including updating the Superintendent's Compendiums for both FOMC and HAMP and the Credit Card Act of 2010 which recognized state law in regards to firearms regulations.

In response to construction work related to the new Visitor Center at FOMC, V&RP staff began enforcing a bicycle prohibition within the monument in January and a bus prohibition in April. Members of the division were also responsible for restriping the main road at FOMC to provide clear traffic control information and safe pedestrian areas. Additional bicycle racks were placed both inside and outside of the Main Gate to provide a parking area for bicyclist.

The rangers responded to 1721 incidents at the parks including 1365 violations of the Code of Federal Regulations. Rangers also issued 215 violation notices during the year. A variety of incidents were encountered including vandalism, traffic violations, archeological, emotionally disturbed persons, search and rescues, medicals, etc. Rangers also responded to ten unexploded ordinance (bombs) discovered at FOMC during construction of the new Visitor Center. The park was evacuated and the monument was closed until the devices were removed by the US Army; all were removed safely and successfully.

Rangers responded to over three dozen medical incidents in the park including seizures, insect stings, diabetic incidents, heat injures, etc. None of the injuries reached the reportable level. Currently the park has three EMT's, two First Responders, and twenty-two CPR certified employees.

The V&RP Division also provided protection for several VIP visits at both parks including the President Obama landing in January and the First Lady/First Daughters' visit in July. All incidents were handled according to policy and written reports were completed.

Due to an increase in vandalism activities at HAMP in recent years, enhancements have been added to physical security at HAMP including CCTV security cameras to the mansion in June, consistent nighttime lighting since January and additional after hours patrols since June. These enhancements have resulted in stopping three resource protection violations as they occurred and possibly prevented dozens more based on past history of the site.

The V&RP Division also assisted other parks by providing commissioned rangers to VAFO for enhanced patrols in December and to NCR for the Restoring Honor event in late August. An EMT was detailed to assist the NCR Youth Event held at PRWI in mid-August.

Throughout the year commissioned rangers attended US District Magistrate Court to assist with the prosecution of violations committed at both FOMC and HAMP. Over

99% percent of FOMC and HAMP cases that appeared in the magistrates court where decided in favor of the government.

The V&RP division added two commissioned rangers to bring the total number of commissioned rangers to six during the peak visiting season. Three Level I and three Level II commissioned rangers were employed during the fiscal year and patrolled both parks.

The V&RP staff also provided protection to the resources at the parks over the winter as a record 77" of snow fell in the Baltimore metropolitan area. Both parks were closed for several days as the city and county cleared area roads. During this time V&RP rangers continued to report to work and monitor environmental conditions within several historic structures and prevent resource damage by persons engaged in snow activities.

Fort McHenry NM&HS served as a host park for the initial year of the Temple ProRanger program providing internships for two students who worked at both FOMC and HAMP for ten weeks over the summer. The ProRangers were exposed to duties performed in a variety of disciplines including maintenance, interpretation, resource management, administration, and protection. Both ProRangers provided positive feedback to the program and were featured in both local and national press articles.

Fiscal year 2010 was the first full year for required annual and quarterly inspections completed as part of the Structural Fire Program. All four fire suppression systems, fifteen fire detection systems, and 200 portable extinguishers were inspected as part of a formal contract with Simplex-Grinnell. Several minor issues were discovered at each inspection (situations that had each developed in less than three months) and were addressed immediately. In total four fire suppression systems and one fire detection system will be added during fiscal year 2011.

The Combined Safety Committee for the parks was very active during fiscal year 2010 with several health and welfare projects being initiated and completed during the year including a walking program (Star Spangle Banner Stride), Voluntary Fitness Program (including an employee gym established at FOMC), recycling program, and park-wide safety awards program.

The committee also responded to several employee safety concerns throughout the year including access to doorways, chemical storage, UTV operations, and several other topics. The committee members worked with management to either immediately correct the situation or develop a long term plan to address the concern.

All permanent employees, as well as the seasonal staff from the Maintenance, Resource Management, and the Visitor & Resource Protection divisions, attended Operational Leadership during 2010. Employees also completed several GAR risk assessments for several activities in all divisions. The Maintenance Division completed GAR risk assessments and a new SOP for UTV operations within the parks in response to the safety stand-down for UTV during the summer of 2010. FOMC and HAMP received regional

approval to resume UTV operations four days after the safety stand-down was initiated by completing the required training and documentation.

The parks Job Hazard Analysis and Material Safety Data Sheets program are both active and were updated throughout the year as new operations or chemicals were introduced into the park.

Partnerships

Both parks continue to have a wide range of partnerships with non-profits, local, state and municipal agencies and organizations.

Park staff has been working closely with the Baltimore National Heritage Area to begin preparation of a Management Plan. Funds have been awarded to the Association of Partners for Public Lands (APPL) to hire a contractor to work on this project. The park will continue to work closely with all the participants on this project.

The primary park partners – Historic Hampton, Inc. and the Friends of Fort McHenry continued to work closely with park staff to enhance programming and fundraising at both parks.

The State of Maryland has formed a Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission. Several members of the staff are currently serving on working committees of this commission in the work groups focusing on Education, Resource Stewardship and Events for the Bicentennial anniversary period from 2012 – 2014. Superintendent Vietzke was asked to Chair the Education committee on behalf of the Governor.

The City of Baltimore, led by the Baltimore National Heritage Area office, formed a Baltimore City War of 1812 Bicentennial planning effort. Again, a series of working groups were also established; Gay Vietzke was asked to Chair the Events and Visitor Experience committee on behalf of the Mayor. Park staff serves on several working groups. Fort McHenry staff also supported Baltimore National Heritage Area in the planning, writing and fabrication of an 1812 Traveling Exhibit for local community gathering places and regional venues.

Baltimore County Executive Jim Smith also established a Baltimore County War of 1812 Commission in 2010. Gay Vietzke was appointed to that group, as well.

Fort McHenry staff participated in the quarterly International Bicentennial of the War of 1812 Sites call-in meetings. Partners often come to the park to call into the meeting to capitalize on any synergy in the room. Each committee provides updates on progress being made on Bicentennial Activities – living history, events, preservation, scholarship, etc.

Finally, Dennis Reidenbach was asked to serve as the lead Regional Director in coordinating NPS War of 1812 Bicentennial activities. RD Reidenbach, asked Gay Vietzke to serve as the lead Superintendent for the coordination of NPS activities. A

vision statement has been drafted for this effort, a website and sharepoint site established, and parks are meeting monthly by conference call as coordination gets underway.

Fort McHenry staff has strongly supported Maryland War of 1812 bicentennial initiatives by providing speakers for state-held community engagement meetings. Meetings informed local constituents about War of 1812 events that took place in those communities. NPS staff presented in Bladensburg, Havre DeGrace, the Eastern Shore of Maryland, Baltimore County (North Point), and Southern Maryland.

On June 12, the Fort McHenry Guard performed a flag detail for the Maryland Department of Motor Vehicles and Governor's Office to inaugurate the new state War of 1812 license plate. Over 200 people were in attendance at the DMV. Of course, many staff members have now switched to the new standard plate for Maryland which features Fort McHenry's ramparts and the Star-Spangled Banner flying over the fort.

June 14 – Chief of Interpretation Vince Vaise gave off-site address to the American Flag Foundation as part of annual Flag Day celebration. An estimated 3,500 visitors were present.

On June 17th, FOMC hosted the National Speakers Conference. Thirty-five Speakers (of the State House of Representatives) from state legislatures attended a special evening program featuring flag talks, cannon-firings, and the history of the fort. The event ended with a large fireworks show. Over 250 people were in attendance.

Superintendent Vietzke continues to serve on the Baltimore County Tourism Advisory Board, appointed by the County Executive.

FOMC staff worked closely with Visit Baltimore and BNHA members to crystallize marketing/event planning for April 2011 – Baltimore's Civil War 150th event which will include a symposium, parade, encampment at Fort McHenry and related programming.

During the course of FY2010, FOMC/HAMP entered into a new Cooperative Agreement with the Living Classrooms Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization. Subsequent Task Agreements have led to work on new innovative partnership projects. Project SERVE brings a work crew from their inner-city program to the parks to work on historic preservation and cultural landscape maintenance. Project SERVE provides job skill training and work experience to young people who have already been incarcerated (or are on the verge of doing time). Participants in the park projects have already successfully completed projects in Baltimore City parks and have "graduated" to the higher skill-level projects represented at the two national park units. Development of the new Fort McHenry/War of 1812 Video Game, "Hold the Fort" is also being done in partnership with Living Classrooms through this agreement.

In FY2010, Fort McHenry provided support for the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail (STSP). Staff contributed interpretive advice, checked content, and assisted in organization and presentation of interpretive planning meetings.

On December 3, Hampton NHS hosted Baltimore County's 350th gala event. Approximately 600 people attended the gala that featured tours of the mansion; numerous dignitaries including the County Executive, several members of Congress, MD State officials, and many local elected; and a fireworks show over the grounds. This was a tremendous success, again, opening the site to a new audience. Park staff from all Divisions at both HAMP and FOMC supported the event.

Throughout the year, staff represented both FOMC and HAMP at meetings of the Greater Baltimore History Alliance. This consortium of historic sites and museums does joint marketing and event planning, supports professional development and training for all member sites, and advocates for history institutions in the greater Baltimore region.

Both parks hosted National Public Lands Day projects this year on September 25. Several natural resource projects were completed at Hampton including the removal of invasive plant species and landscape preservation. Staff worked in partnership with the National Aquarium in Baltimore to maintain Fort McHenry Wetlands adjacent to the park.

Senior staff attended monthly meetings of the Hampton Improvement Association, updating neighbors on park projects and programs. In particular, staff presented information on the Collection Storage Facility to be constructed at the Park and fielded questions and concerns on several occasions.

Planning

The Shuttle Feasibility Study for alternate public transportation options to Fort McHenry NM&HS was completed and park management is actively working with the City of Baltimore to determine a future course of action to provide an alternate means of public transportation to Fort McHenry.

Gay Vietzke served on a panel for the state of Maryland to select a contractor to provide planning for water-based segments of the STSP in Maryland.

The Memo of Intent for a Visitor Contact Station (VCS) at Hampton NHS for NPS and Baltimore County Tourism was signed in April 2010. Much planning around this project continues. A Donor Recognition Plan, Fundraising Agreement, Fundraising Plan, and Transportation Enhancement Grant were all drafted related to this project. This will continue to develop over the next year or two as a specific fundraising strategy is codified and partners begin to seek pledges for the project. Conceptual Design for a Hampton VCS was completed by GWWO, financed by Historic Hampton, Inc. and Baltimore County government. This concept will go to regional DAB review in Fall 2010.

March 19 – Superintendent and Chief of Interpretation, together with representatives of the Baltimore National Heritage Area and Regional office, visited President Street Station and Public School #103 (where Thurgood Marshall attended) to informally evaluate these sites and advise the City of Baltimore on National Landmark status. Subsequent

meetings provided community assistance through the BNHA to support a possible NPS Feasibility study on Thurgood Marshall resources in Baltimore.

Park staff helped plan and participated in a formal board retreat for the Baltimore National Heritage Area to discuss governance and organizational placement of the entity in the new Mayor's administration.

FOMC staff participated in several meetings and staff sessions related to the Star-Spangled Banner NHT Interpretive Plan and Maryland Water Trails Plan.

Regional and National work

On December 10th, Jon Jarvis, Director of the National Park Service, and Deputy Director, Mickey Fearn visited Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine to kickoff a nationwide tour of selected national parks for community engagement. The Director participated in a coffee hour with the park employees, a breakfast with staff of elected officials, a curriculum-based educational program with Baltimore City kids, a luncheon with minority community leaders, a teachers' workshop, and an evening town hall meeting with local residents. The Director was joined by DOI Assistant Secretary, Rhea Suh, and NER Regional Director, Dennis Reidenbach. The day was long – but a great success.

On December 12, Mickey Fearn, Deputy Director of the NPS, visited Hampton National Historic Site. He spent three hours touring the mansion, slave quarters, and overseer's house; talking to park staff and volunteers; and engaging in a dialogue with Superintendent Gay Vietzke, Chief of Interpretation, Vince Vaise, and Curator Gregory Weidman. His inspirational words resonated with the Ranger staff.

January 21 – Superintendent Gay Vietzke and Chief of Interpretation Vincent Vaise participated in a discussion hosted by Deputy Director Mickey Fearn with the Parks and People Foundation. Deputy Director Fearn led the discussion on how the NPS can be proactive in involving inner-city youth – especially beyond the boundaries of NPS sites. Discussion also centered on potential collaborative efforts between the NPS, Parks and People Foundation, area churches, schools and civic organizations.

Superintendent Vietzke participated in a meeting on the status of Civic Engagement initiatives in the NPS with Deputy Director Fearn on April 9th in WASO.

Superintendent Vietzke led the MAP of the WASO Interpretation and Education Program, resulting in a report to the WASO Directorate on the future of the program and qualities to look for in a new Chief of Interpretation for the NPS.

The Fort McHenry Guard living history unit and park staff provided a color-guard Ceremony, interpretive programs and tours of the Fort as part of the National Heritage Area/NER Workshop.

Hampton NHS hosted the NER Superintendents' Council meeting on October 28 and 29th.

Two maintenance personnel and most of the park's heavy equipment were sent to ASIS to assist with storm damage from tropical storm Ida.

Superintendent Vietzke hosted the first NPS 1812 park's call for Superintendents of parks with 1812 stories and resources. An initial list of ideas was generated and basic coordination efforts were established.

Superintendent Vietzke also agreed to chair the NER/NCR Superintendents' Conference to be held in Virginia in October 2010.

Gay Vietzke participated in the Northeast Region's workforce enrichment committee and was rewarded at the end of the year with news that the committees' work was complete and successful!

Chief of Interpretation Vince Vaise has served as the logistics Chair and on-site coordinator for planning the NER Chief of Interpretation training to be held in December 2010.

Aug 18 & 19 – Hampton NHS and Fort McHenry NM&HS hosted twelve youth participants of the Energy Conservation Corps for the Northeast Regional Office. Interpretive Rangers and Maintenance employees gave special tours of the mansion's geothermal system, Hampton dairy, new solar lights at Fort McHenry and geothermal system at the new FOMC Visitor Center.

On August 3, Superintendent Vietzke accompanied NPS Deputy Director Mickey Fearn to meet with Baltimore City Recreation and Parks Department leadership to discuss potential collaborations between City parks and NPS. A concept to engage middle school students with park stewardship resulted from the meeting and will be the subject of future work and partnership.
